

# **Wilton Conservation Commission**

PO Box 83 Wilton Town Hall, Wilton, NH 03086

## **Minutes OF MEETING**

### **MONDAY – 08 APRIL 2013 – 7:05 PM**

The Wilton Conservation Commission held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, 08 April 2013, starting at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Courtroom.

Present: Lynne Draper, Les Tallarico, William Mahar, Alan Preston, Spencer Brookes, Joe Boles, Laurence Coronis, Absent: Bart Hunter

Expected items were on the Agenda as follows (subjected to change):

- Minutes – No actions
- Lynne signed the wetland permit for a Goss Park project.
- Expenditures and 2013 Request
- Authorize payment for NHCA Dues and Souhegan Watershed dues
- ZBA – No March Meeting; Upcoming April Meeting of 09 April
- Planning Board – Meetings of 20 March and 03 April; Upcoming Meeting of 17 April
- Forest Management/Timber Harvests/Logging – No change
- New Reservoir/Old Reservoir – no information and the board member change is in process.
- Alan made a motion 100 boundary signs seconded by Les.  
Approved unanimously.
- Label Art Dam – no update
- Violations & Complaints – Updates
- Last Out Post is in legal
- Open Lands – Update
- Wildlife Sightings – Les had deer, turkey, cardinals, and moose by Temple Road and also on Jones Rd. Alan had a fox get one of his

hens.

- Local Open Space
- Vandalism – Updates
- Signage – New Signs; Update
- Isaac Frye Highway Project – Update and Discussion
- Gage Road Field – Update and Discussion
- Stanton Knock – Management Plan
- Sherburne Woods – Management Plan
- Frog Pond – R-O-W, R-O-W Culvert, Maintenance, Milford Side Field Edging; Update and Discussion
- Frog Pond – Potential Dredging of Pond for 2013; Update
- Carnival Hill – No activity
- Community Garden at Carnival Hill – A Matching fund not to exceed \$100 to replace invasive plants with more appropriate plantings. Made by Les, Seconded by Bill approved unanimously.
- Four Corners Farm –
- Isaac Frye Highway Lands See attached letter which was approved
- Wegener Woods – Laurence made a motion to expend not to exceed \$250.00 for Wagener Woods similar to the Frog Pond Sign on Maple Street.
- Trails – no action.
- Miscellaneous – including but not limited to:
  - Southern NH Outdoor Expo at Hampshire Hills, Milford – April 13
  - Souhegan Watershed Association – Water testing plans again this year.
  - Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee (SoRLAC) – no action
  - Regional Open Space Team (ROST) – no actions
  - Souhegan Valley Land Trust (SVLT) – no action
  - NiSoHiLa – no action

Laurence made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 Second by Les.

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- March 31, 2013

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- To Whom It May Concern:

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- The Isaac Frye Highway Lands project in Wilton, NH, a joint effort of the present landowners Gary Frye and the High Mowing School, is a significant conservation project in the town, containing +/- 100 acres in five contiguous lots on the north-facing side of Abbot Hill. Not only will the land be conserved to prevent development, a good amount of the land will either remain in or be turned over to agricultural use. The Frye family has been farming the land for seven generations, the High Mowing School wishes to expand its agricultural program, and the Town of Wilton has noted in its Natural Resource Inventory the importance of local agricultural lands – so this project is a win-win situation for all. In particular, Lot E-139, a parcel containing an outstanding large field not commonly found in Hillsborough County, NH, is a gem in terms of quality of soils, view and location.

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- The Town of Wilton through the Wilton Conservation Commission (WCC) holds the “executory interest” from FRPP grants on two other Wilton properties: Four Corners Farm, and the Abbot Hill Fields. It is our hope that soon a third property, Gage Road Field (also on Abbot Hill), will join those two projects. Adding the High Mowing/Frye land parcels would constitute a significant gain in conserved land, all on Abbot Hill. As evidence of WCC’s willingness and experience, two WCC members are trained monitors through the UNH Natural Resource Stewards program. Another is a retired USDA soil specialist and a fourth is a monitor for the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, monitoring SPNHF’s 1047-acre Heald Tract Lands in Wilton.

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- With the Commission’s background, and further, with many parcels in this project having already been identified as important (in particular Lot E-139) in our Natural Resource Inventory, this project is of

significant interest and importance.

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- WCC is willing to provide (1) assistance to the conservation easement monitoring and (2) agreement to assume the rights and responsibilities that come with holding an “executory interest”. We are also in discussion of providing some funding for this project and consideration of non-agricultural soils areas for public use. This willingness can and would be contingent upon completion of the project.

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- Sincerely,

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- Lynne E. Draper, Chair

- On behalf of the Wilton Conservation Commission